sion include improved interaction at governmental and business level *ex-change* of trade delegations, arranging of buyer-seller meets and participation in. trade fairs. In the case of Spain, the Joint Business Council met in New Delhi in March, 1994 while the Indo-Spanish Joint Committee is expected to meet in October this year. Some of the Indian trade delegations which visited Spain in. the recent past include representatives of MPEDA^ Tobacco Board. Solvent Extractors' Association and the Export Promotion Councils for Leather, Handicrafts, Carpets and Gem and Jewellery.(b) Major items of export to Spain are marine products, leather and leather manufacturer, textile goods, drugs pharmaceuticals and chemicals. Imports from, Spain inter-alia include organice chemicals, artificial resins, plastic materials iron and steel, non-ferrous metals machinery and projects geods.

(c) Some areas of potential export interest to India are agricultural products. automobile ancillaries, sports poods, tea coffee and tobacco while there are possibilities of im poiting items such as chemicals, pro-fessicnal items and optical goods from Spain.

Import of essential' commodities through STC

310. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be plea-fierl to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal under consideration regarding import of essential commodities in order to maintain price sta-blity in' case the; domestic production falls short": and

(h) if so, 'whether all such imports be made p'exclusively through the STC?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE); j (a) Depending on the requirements for the Public Distribution System determined by the Food Ministry and Ministry of Civil Supplies and Public Distribution import of sugar and Palmolein is being undertaken oy ,STC and MMTC, for augmenting supplies under PDS.

(b) Import of these items is not canalised through STC.

Import of waste paper

811. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India imports 20,000 tonnes of waste paper for recycling;

(b) if so, what is the annual waste paper collected in India;

(c) to what extent the recycling | of this paper is done by the industry;

(d) what are the reasons for im-| porting such a huge quantity of waste paper for the country.

(e) what are the names of the countries from where waste paper is being imported and at what cost;

(f) whether Government are con-sidering to han i his import of waste r.npcr from 1994 onwards; and

(g) if not_ the reasons thereof? THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE | (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): fa) It is a fact that waste paper is being imported into India for recyl-ing. As this item does not appear separately in Indian Trade Classification based on Harmonised Commodity Description, information regard-! ing the import o waste paper is not ' available separately, However, dur-